



Ambulance Ride Turns into a Memorable Day

2 IN Fire Depts. Aid Success of FDIC

3 May Celebrated Safety Professionals

4 IN Officials Monitored Safety at L'ville Show

5 Keep Safety in Mind at County Fairs

RIGHT: Sullivan County resident Drew Graves visited Busch Stadium, home of the St. Louis Cardinals, while in town for a medical procedure.



Wood Appt'd Director of IDHS Prep. & Training

Brandon Wood has been named Director of the Preparedness and Training Division at the Indiana Department of Homeland Security. This appointment is viewed as a "next step" for the Indiana Fire and Public Safety Academy Training System.

In this new position, Wood will be responsible for leading the planning and delivery of training, exercises and professional development for officials in multiple public safety disciplines throughout Indiana. He brings to

This is a story about a little boy suffering from a debilitating disease, a Sullivan County Paramedic Training Officer, an EMT and an ambulance ride no one involved will ever forget.

Sullivan resident Drew Graves, a 10-year-old who was diagnosed with Loeys-Dietz syndrome in 2008, has had to go to St. Louis several times for a series of surgeries and follow-up appointments at a children's hospital there. LDS is a genetic disorder that affects the body's connective tissue. In Drew's case, his bones and really all of his body parts are affected. He has undergone 13 surgeries, his bones are soft, he has had spinal fusion and has had rods and iliac screws inserted in his body. Right now, he is restricted to lying flat and must be rolled from side to side throughout the day.

After some time in St. Louis, the doctors said he could go home to Sullivan for a while for some rehabilitation, as long as ambulance transportation could be arranged. Enter Sullivan County Ambulance Service Paramedic Training Officer Kenny Ming and EMT Phillip Powers.

When Ming and Powers arrived in St. Louis to bring Drew back to his home in Indiana, they noticed he was wearing a St. Louis Cardinals shirt. It ends up Drew describes himself as a diehard St. Louis Cardinals baseball fan. Ming had an idea, even though he is a self-described diehard Chicago Cubs fan.

"We're two miles from Busch Stadium at the children's hospital," Ming said. "So I'm thinking, if it makes him happy, him lying flat so long, we're going

Indiana Fire Departments Aid the Success of FDIC

Indiana firefighters played a role in the success of the 2016 Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC). Seven firefighters from Indiana, including one of the only volunteer firefighters to present at the conference, presented during the week that the conference was in Indianapolis.

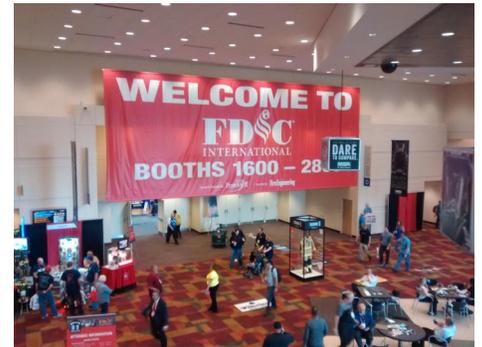
“Having firefighters from many different departments throughout the state shows Indiana’s dedication to the education and progress of the firefighting community,” said State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson. “It is a privilege to be able to contribute to the success of one of the largest firefighting conventions in the world right here in our home state.”

Benjamin Peetz, second assistant chief of the Napoleon Volunteer

Fire Department, was the only volunteer firefighter from Indiana to speak at FDIC. Peetz spoke on “Preplanning and Inspecting Manufacturing and Industrial Facilities.”

The other firefighters from Indiana that presented were Brian Kazmierzak of the Penn Township Fire Department, John Shafer of the Greencastle Fire Department, Pedro Caceres and Todd Taylor of the Wayne Township Fire Department, Eric Dreiman of the Indianapolis Fire Department, Tobias Frost of the Lafayette Fire Department and Steve White and Eric Mohr of the Fishers Fire Department.

FDIC is held annually at the Indiana Convention Center and Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis. 2016 was the 89th FDIC conference. □



TOP: Exhibits and fire trucks displayed in Lucas Oil Stadium.

BOTTOM: FDIC welcome sign at the Indiana Convention Center.

Wood Appointed Director (cont.)

the position a wealth of knowledge and passion for public safety training.

“Brandon has been a public servant his entire adult life, and then some,” said IDHS Director David Kane. “He started his career as a police dispatcher while he was still a teenager and never looked back. I’m excited about this next step in the delivery of training across the state.”

State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson agrees. “Brandon’s diverse experience on the front lines and as a leader have prepared him for this new role. He has the necessary talent and energy to help implement the goals of the academy training system,” he said.

Wood was formerly the fire training section chief for IDHS.



He has 18 years of local experience in Bartholomew, Johnson and Marion counties and held various positions in both firefighting and emergency medical services, several of them involving training. His highest

rank attained in the fire service was battalion/operations chief.

Wood also worked for more than two years with Indiana University Health as a communications specialist and training officer for its Lifeline Critical Care Transport. Since 2012, he has served simultaneously with Bargersville Community Fire Department along with his IDHS duties.

Wood is a graduate of Hauser High School in Hope, Indiana, and Columbia Southern University, where he received an associate’s degree in fire science. He is married and has two children. □

May Celebrated Safety Professionals

May acknowledged the hard work of many safety professionals throughout the state, and IDHS thanks these, and the many other safety professionals for their hard work and dedication. Although the observances have passed there are plenty of opportunities to promote the work of emergency management, emergency response and safety professionals across Indiana. Each website below provides information and educational resources that can be used to educate the public.

Building Safety

Sponsored by the International Code Council

<http://www.iccsafe.org/about-icc/building-safety-month/2016-building-safety-month/>

The Building Safety Month campaign helps increase awareness about how building codes and code officials improve and protect the buildings within the community. International codes, which have been adopted in all 50 states, provide minimum safeguards for the United States through coordinated building

safety and fire prevention codes. The public awareness campaign helps individuals, families and businesses understand how these codes create safe and sustainable structures, and the important role code officials play in public safety.

Arson Awareness

Sponsored by the U.S. Fire Administration

https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/arson_awareness.html

Arson is the willful, malicious, intentional and/or reckless burning of your property or someone else's. Arson investigations often rely on information from local residents to close the case. Encouraging local residents to provide information to local law enforcement in the case of a suspicious incident or fire is vital to putting malicious arsonists behind bars.

The U.S. Fire Administration provides archived information for campaigns from previous

years, full of valuable information on arson prevention.

Emergency Medical Services

Sponsored by the American College of Emergency Physicians and the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians.

<http://www.emsstrong.org/ems-week/>

EMS campaigns work to unify and inspire the men and women of our nation's emergency medical services. Those that wear the uniform and deliver care to patients with passion and expertise are often overlooked, and educating about the many ways they support health and safety in the community, as well as risks faced each day, is important.

EMS is also celebrating 50 years of Modern EMS during 2016, marking five decades since the publication of the *Accidental Death and Disability* whitepaper highlighting the need for a standardized and effective system of care for accidental injury. □

Ambulance Ride Turns into Memorable Day (cont.)

to take him to Busch Stadium and we're going to take him on the cot and we're just going to let him look around."

Ming said they arrived at the stadium on the third base side by a big statue of Stan Musial, who played 22 seasons for the Cardinals. He asked Drew if he'd like his picture taken by the statue and, of course, he did.

"As his mom Cara took some photos there, I noticed you could see through one of the gates to the stadium, so I pushed him up next

to the fence so he could see the field," Ming said. "A tour guide inside the stadium noticed our group, unlocked the gate and said we could come on in."

Because of Drew's condition and his having to lie flat, there were some places that weren't accessible. But it was a thrill for Drew and for mom, too, who said she enjoyed watching his face light up. Workers were on the field getting it ready for Opening Day.

"If we can make a kid happy, we're going to do what we can," he said.

"It was really cool; these Cardinals' organization people just opened their doors to us—guys in an ambulance with a kid on a stretcher – they really made Drew's day. I have six kids of my own, but Drew is my little buddy."

Ming says that although Drew will have to endure more surgeries, he is making good progress and even doing some walking. Ming hopes he will be accompanying his little buddy to St. Louis again. □

Sentencing Complete in 2 IDHS-Assisted Investigations

Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) fire investigators assisted local fire departments in two fire investigations that concluded in April 2016. Two suspects were sentenced in investigations that stemmed from 2015 fires in Benton and Dubois counties.

IDHS fire investigators, most of whom come from fire service backgrounds, cover anywhere

from nine to 13 counties in the state. Investigators assist local fire departments and law enforcement agencies in the investigation of origin and cause of fires and explosions.

The first investigation resulted from a fire at the Benton County Prosecutor's Office. The office was set on fire in an attempt to destroy the suspect's case file. The suspect then set two more

fires that same day to try and draw away any suspicion. The suspect was sentenced to 16 years and was ordered to pay \$92,000 in restitution.

The second investigation from a fire at a Dubois county apartment complex. The suspect was sentenced to 5 years. □

Indiana Officials Monitored Safety at Louisville Show

A crowd of at least 750,000 people attended the 2016 'Thunder Over Louisville' on Saturday, April 23rd.

The Indiana State Police sent 120 state troopers and 125 adjacent agency police officers to the show. The officers assisted in traffic coordination, interstate and foot patrols. Also implemented was an emergency response team, canines, bomb squad and aircraft who were on hand throughout the duration of the two-day event.

IDHS Liaison to EMA Director Les Kavanaugh, Doug Cooke, monitored activity in the Incident Command post (ICP)/communications vehicle during the event.

IDHS and the Indiana State Police prepared residents to stay aware and stay safe during the annual air and fireworks show. IDHS did so by sending tweets with the hashtag #ReadyWheneverWherever. The tweets included tips on awareness in large crowds and multiple scenarios that could occur at any given time.

Thunder festivities began at 11 a.m. and concluded at 11 p.m. with multiple events occurring simultaneously. These events



Photo by Shawn Skriver, licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0

include interactive displays, kids' activities and a family fun center. Attendees arrived as early as 7 a.m. on Saturday to begin setting up campsites for the show. Many people competed for spots along the Ohio River in order to enjoy the spectacular weather along the water.

Two locations were popular for citizens this year – one on the Kentucky side of the Ohio River and the other on the Indiana side in Clark County. The high on

Saturday was 71 degrees and 80 degrees on Sunday, making it ideal for the annual air show.

Even with the favorable weather, Thunder coordinators did not bypass safety. Event coordinators set up seven 'Thunder Stations' which included first aid and lost child centers. □

Amusement Ride Safety Resources

With fairs and carnivals happening in the warm months, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) wants to promote community awareness on amusement ride safety.

Here are some tips to quickly inform your community about:

- Don't board a ride if you see broken parts, signs of

improper maintenance, or an inattentive operator. Report your observations to the ride operator or call the IDHS amusement ride hotline at 1-888-203-5020.

- Every ride should have a prominently displayed, current permit issued by IDHS. If the ride has no such permit, call the amusement

ride hotline at 1-888-203-5020.

- Read all posted rules and listen to instructions given by ride operators.

For more information and sharable resources, visit GetPrepared.in.gov. □

Gibson County Responders Assist in Evacuation

An inter-agency response occurred on Thursday, April 28, to respond to high levels of carbon monoxide in an Oakland City business.

Shamrock Engineering, who specializes in building small to medium sized automated assembly systems, was evacuated, and an on-site triage was implemented to address emergent

illness from the exposure. A total of 20 workers were triaged, with four injured requiring treatment; three treated and released at the scene, and one was taken to the hospital for carbon monoxide poisoning treatment.

The evacuation was lifted once the situation, caused by a damaged propane forklift, was resolved. The forklift was put out of

commission and is awaiting repairs.

Emergency response units included Oakland City Police Department, Oakland City Fire Department, Francisco Police Department, Gibson County Sheriff's Department, Pike County EMS and the Indiana Department of Homeland Security. □

Avian Flu Quarantine Lifted

May marked the end of the avian flu quarantines related to the January cases of high and low pathogenic avian influenza in

Dubois County. This was determined by the Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH). The state is also now considered

avian influenza-free. The statewide status was achieved following 90 consecutive days with no new cases. □

Keep Safety in Mind at County Fairs

Attending a county fair is a popular family activity during the summer months. Help local residents be prepared with some safety tips:

- Pay attention to weather forecasts and know where to go should inclement weather arise. Especially in the summer, storms can approach quickly;
- Use sunscreen, wear sunglasses, and be sure to keep hydrated;
- To protect feet, wear closed-toe shoes instead of flip-flops or sandals;

- Keep a watchful eye on children so they don't become separated in large crowds. Have an established family meeting location where family members would reconnect if separated. Some event organizers offer contact tags children can wear;
- Wash hands or use hand sanitizer after touching animals and don't consume and food while inside a barn;
- Don't board a ride if there are broken parts, signs of improper maintenance or inattentive operator. IDHS

operates an amusement ride hotline at 1-888-203-5020;

- Every ride should have prominently displayed, current permit issued by IDHS; and
- Know any physical conditions or limitations before boarding an amusement ride.

For more information and shareable resources, visit the Ready: Whenever. Wherever, Amusement Ride and Heat Safety sections of GetPrepared.in.gov. □

Mission

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security will provide statewide leadership, exemplary customer service, and subject matter expertise for the enhancement of public and private partnerships and the assurance of local, state and federal collaboration to continually develop Indiana's public safety capabilities for the wellbeing and protection of our citizens, property and economy.

Contact

The Hoosier Responder is a publication of The Indiana Department of Homeland Security. Please direct any questions or comments to the IDHS Public Information Office at (317) 234-6713 or pio@dhs.in.gov.

Indiana Department of Homeland Security
302 West Washington Street
Indiana Government Center South
Room E208
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 232-3980 or (800) 669-7362

